



# CSUN Psychology Department Newsletter

February, 2023  
Volume 1, Issue 5

## Message from the Department Chair

I hope your spring semester is off to a great start! I would like to welcome the faculty, staff and returning students back, as well as NEW students admitted this SPRING semester. We



want you all to know that the psychology department is here to help you in any way that we can. Please stop by the department office, **Sierra Hall 376**, if you have any questions or just want to say hi! You can also email us at

**psychdept@csun.edu.**

There are a lot of exciting projects and activities on campus this semester, including the near completion of the Sierra Annex building (directly in front of the south entrance of Sierra Hall). Check out the announcements in this newsletter and keep up with your email for additional department information about upcoming events and news.

We would also love to hear from YOU! Please share any news, information, or announcements for future newsletters by completing a short form at **<https://forms.office.com/r/pYRgSYw4pk>**

We hope that this is an exciting, productive semester!

Best wishes,

*Jill Razani*



The Soraya

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Message from the Department Chair .....	1
Donation From CSUN Psychology Alumni.....	2
In Memoriam.....	3
Psych Wordle .....	4
Upcoming Student Event...4	
Spring Semester Launch of CAPS.....	5
CAPS Student Opportunities and Announcements.....	6
Student Psychology Clubs...7	

## A GENEROUS DONATION FROM TWO PSYCHOLOGY ALUMNI!



Charlie and Linda at CSUN, 1978

Linda Vaughn (M.A. '79) and Charlie Hofacker (M.A. '78) have bequeathed a large donation (the largest the college and department have received to date) to the CSUN Psychology Department. Linda expressed that the Psychology Department is special to them both academically and personally. They are not only grateful for the excellent instruction they received from the psychology faculty when completing their master's degrees in psychology, but the two met, fell in love, and married shortly after finishing their graduate work in their psychology programs.

Charlie went on to receive his Ph.D. in Cognitive/Mathematical Psychology at UCLA. Upon completion, he accepted a faculty position at Florida State University's College of Business, where he has been a Marketing professor since 1985. He has earned numerous accolades and accomplishments, including being voted educator of the year by the Marketing Edge

After graduating from CSUN, Linda went on to obtain an MBA at UCLA. Upon graduation, she accepted a position as a senior policy analyst for the Florida Legislature. There, she conducted research on the effectiveness and efficiency of Florida's government programs. She briefed legislators and frequently testified in front of legislative committees about her research—while also fielding questions from digital, print, and televised media relevant to her research. Her work was quoted in



Linda and Charlie, Now

*"...the two met, fell in love, and married shortly after finishing their graduate work in the psychology program."*

Check out [Bommer Money](#). This is a Boomer retirement planning and "wealth" management blog. Whether you're still working, or are now retired, this blog is for Boomers who want to protect, grow, and manage their nest-egg.

Association in 2017, and the first to publish a national textbook on Internet Marketing for undergraduates. He has served as editor and been on the editorial review boards of several journals. Teaching from time to time at Bocconi University in Milan, Italy, he has also presented invited addresses and workshops throughout western Europe.

the Obama Administration's Commission assigned to study the causes and effects of the 2008 Great Recession on Florida's local governments. After retiring in 2011, she created [Boomer-MoneyandMore.com](#), a blog designed to help Boomers not outlive their money.

## IN MEMORIAM



*It is with great sadness that the department announces the passing of a great professor, respected colleague, and dear friend, **Dr. Luciana Laganà**. Dr. Laganà was born and raised in Italy, where she graduated with a psychology degree from the University of Rome. She then moved to the United States and obtained two doctoral degrees, one in Cognitive Psychology from the University of Georgia and a second in Clinical Psychology at the Illinois Institute of Technology. After a research postdoctoral fellowship at Stanford University School of Medicine, she was hired at CSUN as a psychology professor where she taught courses in the areas of gerontology and human sexuality as well as conducted aging research for two decades.*

*While at CSUN, Dr. Laganà had a very active research lab where she delighted in training undergraduate and graduate students, many of whom went on to obtain doctoral degrees in the field of psychology. She also secured funding from the National Institutes of Health to conduct her research. She retired from CSUN at the end of fall 2021.*

*During her time at CSUN she also pursued her interests in acting, directing and screenwriting. Dr. Laganà is survived by her husband of 20 years, Greg Graham. She will be missed by her many students, colleagues and friends.*

*The Psychology Department plans to hold a memorial in honor of Dr. Laganà and will provide more information as it becomes available.*



## PLAY FEBRUARY PSYCH WORDLE



### [Play Now!](https://mywordle.strivemath.com/?word=ovrpp)

(<https://mywordle.strivemath.com/?word=ovrpp>)

Join the fun! Compete with classmates and colleagues to get on the Psychology Wordle leaderboard.

### **Here is how you play:**

- ⇒ Guess the PSYCH WORDLE in 6 tries.
- ⇒ After each guess, the color of the tiles will change to show how close your guess was to the word

**Gray tile** = Letter is not in the word

**Yellow tile** = Letter is in the word but in the wrong location

**Green tile** = Letter is in the word and in the correct location

**When you are done, report your results at: <https://forms.gle/>**

## UPCOMING STUDENT EVENT



### **Psychology Student Mentoring Event**

This event will provide students the opportunity to talk to Psychology Alumni mentors and learn about the various pathways for careers in Psychology.

**DATE :** April 1, 2023

**Time:** (TBD)

**Mentors will include:** Careers that lead to a PHD in Psychology. (Counseling, Clinical, Neuro, Developmental, and Social Psychology) Careers in Behavior and Mental Health. (MFT, SW, LPC, ABA/BCBA, School PSY, School Counseling)

**Location:** TBD Registration Link Will Be Announced Soon





## SPRING SEMESTER LAUNCH OF CAPS

Community for Achievement of Psychological Science (CAPS) is open and ready for business. CAPS senior fellows (peer mentors) and fellows (mentees) this semester concluded their training and meetup day on February 3rd!



## CAPS STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES



Visit [C.A.P.S. website](#) for more information about upcoming events and how to get involved.

Looking to connect with psychology majors or minors? Wanting to give back to the community?

The **Community for Achievement in Psychological Science (CAPS)** is accepting applications for senior fellows and fellows for the upcoming spring semester!

If you would like to be a fellow (mentee), visit this [link](#).



# PSYCH STUDENT CLUBS



**The CSUN Chapter of Psi Chi is excited to introduce its board members!**

President: Frances Ross

Vice President: Belinda Avalos

Treasurer: Bernice Gonzalez

Secretary: Karen Montes

Supporting Positions: Beatriz Azevedo-Reis, Leah Gadi, Alfredo Santiago



**Multicultural Psychology Association (MPA) is excited to introduce its board members!**

President: Bernice Gonzalez

Vice President: Beatriz Azevedo-Reis

Treasurer: Veronica Gutierrez

Secretary: Seth Almaraz

Event Coordinator Director: Christy Rodriguez

Community Outreach Director: James Darrow

Social Media Director: Liana Kurkdjian

Creative Director: Lindsey Walton

Historian: Kistin Yegoyan

**Psi Chi is currently accepting membership applications. For more information contact:**

[psichi@csun.edu](mailto:psichi@csun.edu)



**You can also follow Psi Chi for the latest News and events**

Linktree\*



**MPA is currently accepting applications for membership. For more information about MPA contact:**



**Multiculturalpsy@gmail.com**